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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/088,916	03/25/2002	Masanobu Shinoda	0425-0899 P	2685
2292	7590	04/01/2004	EXAMINER	
BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			RAYMOND, RICHARD L	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		1624		

DATE MAILED: 04/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/088,916	SHINODA ET AL.
Examiner	Art Unit	
Richard L. Raymond	1624	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 December 2003.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-3 and 5-17 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-3 and 5-17 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Note the change of examiner in the present application. The art unit remains the same.

Response to Amendment

2. The amendment filed December 23, 2003 canceled claim 4. Applicants note that Claim 18 was deleted in the Preliminary Amendment. Accordingly, the claims now pending are claims 1-3 and 5-17.
3. It is requested that a copy of the Form PTO-1449 be supplied to complete the record.
4. Pursuant to the election of species requirement of record, applicants have elected the compound of Example 37e on page 204 of the specification. Claims 1-3 and 5-17 are readable thereon.
5. In view of applicants' amendments and arguments, the Section 112 rejections of record have been overcome.
6. The following new rejections are seen necessary.

Improper Markush Rejection

7. Claims 1-3 and 5-17 are rejected as being improper Markush claims in the definitions of the L, X, T, M and W variables. So substituted, the resulting total

compounds lack a common core and are structurally diverse and patentable distinct one from the others. Note that the X and W variables involve diverse functional groups and the L, T and M linking groups can be present or absent. Thus diverse functional groups are attached to the Y and Z rings directly and/or through alkylene and /or alkenylene groups. A reference anticipating one under 35 USC 102 would not be a reference against the others under 35 USC 103. Further, an undue search burden in the US classification (classes 548, 560, 562 and 564 and corresponding subclasses in 514) and the literature (STN/CAS) is involved. Limitation of the claims to compounds where X is an amido group, W is an acid or amido group and L, T and M correspond to the those in the elected species, or if L, T and M are not limited, R¹ is limited to an oxygen substituent as in the elected species, will overcome this rejection.

8. *The claims have been searched and examined to the extent that they read on the above grouped invention.*

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102 / 35 USC § 103

9. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless —

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

10. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

11. Claims 1-3 and 5-16, drawn to products, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Chandrakumar et al. This patent discloses specific compounds within the present claims (see the corresponding STN/CAS printout) wherein Y is substituted phenyl, L is a bond, X is C(O)NH, Z is phenylene, M is CH₂, R¹ is a H, and W is COOH. Where not anticipated, one would be motivated to prepare the present compounds from within the genus of the reference and to prepare the simple homologs, isomers and analogs of the specific compounds of the reference with the reasonable expectation of obtaining additional useful pharmaceuticals for the uses in the reference. In the absence of a showing of unexpected properties, no patentable significance is seen in the present selection.

12. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Conclusion

12. This action is **not** made final.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Richard L. Raymond whose telephone number is (571) 272-0673. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday (9:30AM-8:00PM)).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mukund J. Shah can be reached on (571) 272-0674. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Richard L. Raymond
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1624

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March 25, 2004